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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 20 | Humidity 71% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 54,884 | Nifty 16,352 | Gold 50,923 | Silver 62,311 | Dollar 77.58 | Euro 83.34 | GBP 98.11

After decades, residents still waiting for neighbourhood park as authorities turn 'encroachers' of public common

RAIDERS OF THE LOST PARK

Civic body wants swimming pool, amphitheatre instead

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The residents of Banashankari 3rd Stage have been appealing to the authorities to look into their grievances for more than three decades but in vain.

They have been demanding authorities for not a favour but to get what they are entitled to — a park in the neighbourhood. Their demand is to develop the land earmarked for the park.

Ironically, the authorities are ready to construct a swimming pool and an amphitheatre instead of planting saplings, developing pathways and installing concrete or marble benches in the land in question.

Residents said they have to approach the court every time the authorities attempt to misuse the land meant for the park.

S Narayan Rao, residing at 70, 2nd Cross, 4th Block, Banashankari 3rd Phase, was compelled to file a public interest litigation (PIL) way back in 1986 against the BDA decision to allot the land to a school.

The court set aside the Bangalore Development Authority's (BDA) decision of allotting the land to Balaji Vidyanikethan on December 22, 1994 stating that so long as the site is earmarked for a park, it cannot be allotted to any one for running a school.

Years later, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) passed a work order, on January 7, 2010, for the construction of a swimming pool and an amphitheatre by violating the court order.

In response, M Narayan Rao, residing at 75, 3rd Main, First Block, 3rd Phase of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Construction of amphitheatre stopped by court order and (inset) sheds constructed, vehicles parked on land meant for park

> **We've been struggling for years to have a park for senior citizens and children... Attempts were made to grab this land...** — M Narayan Rao, resident

Forest Bump

'631 eucalyptus trees in Jarakabande Kaval reserve to make way for PRR'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Over 600 trees in the Jarakabande Kaval Reserve Forest will be axed for developing a stretch of the 73-km long Peripheral Ring Road (PRR).

In a reply to an RTI query, the BDA has revealed, 631 eucalyptus trees are being proposed to be cut in Jarakabande Kaval Reserve Forest.

Around 100 m of the eight-lane PRR is expected to cut through the reserve forest.

"As per their claim, only 631 eucalyptus trees will be axed but it will have to be verified against Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This is a protected area and they should retain it. Development of PRR should happen around the reserve forest, if need be," said Randhish Raghavan who filed the RTI.

There was also a proposal to convert a section of the reserve forest into a park, expected to be larger than Cubbon Park.

Environmentalists warned of the consequences of such unsustainable developments. They have termed the project unnecessary and suggested shifting the project outside the forest in a bid to retain biodiversity.

Terming the project absolutely unnecessary, environmentalist Dr AN Yellappa Reddy said, "Thousands of trees are being cut for this project. It's not just eucalyptus trees, even 500-year-old trees are facing the axe. Normally, peepuls are not considered out of bounds but now the government has relaxed the rules. Despite court

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Go crafts!

The 20th edition of Bengaluru Dastkar Bazaar is going on folks. It is a confluence of 140+ craft groups and entrepreneurs from 20+ states across India in one single space. More than 20 new craft groups will be present for the first time at the Bengaluru Bazaar. Crafts on display include: Wrought Iron Craft, Blue and Black Stone Pottery, Marble Carving, Madhubani, Pattachitra, Miniature, Phad and Phichwai paintings, Kota, Pashmina, Sambalpur and Ikat weaves and many many more. There will also be workshops and cultural performances on various days.
When: May 27-June 2; 10.30 am -8.30 pm
Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Jayamahal Road

02 Peek into the future

Future City is an immersive experience engaging the citizens in an ongoing conversation between the city, technology, art, sustainability, mobility, innovation and action. The Bengaluru edition involves a three-day festival at Bangalore Creative Circus with stalls, events, workshops, talks, panels, pop-ups, performances and art featuring an interactive augmented reality display that transports the viewer into the future.
When: June 3-5; Where: Bangalore Creative Circus, 12/2, Yeshwanthpur Industrial Suburb, Estate

03 Poets' society

Every Tuesday, Lahe Lahe brings to you a heart-plucking session of poetry, and good company. Every week poetry is recited on a theme they would have fixed last week or if not, you can recite any of your poem you would like to share or even a poem you like with credits to the poet. They also have poet of the week where we talk about the poet and his works.
When: Tuesday, 7.30-9.30 pm; Where: Lahe Lahe, No. 2906, 2907, HAL 2nd Stage, Kodihalli

Catwalk by feline beauties

Cat owners participate in the 2nd international Championship Cat Show by Cat Club of India in Bengaluru on Sunday

No one wants onus of biodiversity committee

Panel members shocked by BBMP's apathy towards working of body set up by its own forest division

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It appears that Bengaluru's Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) does not exist even on paper. The three-membered committee was constituted by the forest division of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in January 2020 to document urban biodiversity as per the Biological Biodiversity Act (BDA) 2002 and NGT orders. However, it seems that the committee has now been disowned, without even its members being told about it.

"No budget was sanctioned for BMC in BBMP's last budget session. This work has now been taken up by the urban territorial division (Karnataka Forest Department). They have sanctioned a budget and the work has been completed. BBMP's forest division is not involved in it anymore," informed the official. However, the buck does not stop here. When this reporter tried to contact the urban territorial division of the Karnataka Forest Department, an official said, "We are not supposed to conduct biodiversity monitoring work. It is being done by the Social Forestry Department."

When we contacted the social forestry department, it too denied any involvement. While the authorities kept shirking responsibility, the committee members say they are taken aback by this mismanagement.

"If this is the level of confusion on their side, how will we ever be able to do our work? It is BBMP's Forest Division's responsibility to convene the meeting. It cannot come under the urban territorial division as it is not their forte. If that was the case, why was BMC formulated by BBMP?" said Akshay Heblikar, BMC member and founder of ECO Watch. The members say they have not heard from BBMP even after repeated requests to convene the BMC meeting for months now. "We have been asking for a meeting for the last one year or so, even if it can happen online. But there has been no response. The committee submitted an action plan for documenting the city's biodiversity a year ago. However, the then DCF got transferred and it came to a standstill," added Heblikar.

BangaloreMirror
After 13 years and various processes later, People's Biodiversity Register for Bengaluru is yet to materialise as latest of committees hasn't formally convened
LIFE AS WE KNOW IT
Biodiversity committees meant for local self-governing bodies

BM had reported on March 10, 2022 about the lapses in the biodiversity committee's functioning

The biodiversity committee has been set up in January 2020 to create a People's Biodiversity Register

"We have been asking for a meeting for the last one year or so, even if it can happen online – Akshay Heblikar, BMC

Nandini N, head of BMC and professor at the Department of Environmental Science, Bengaluru University, agrees. "We have been asking for a meeting to kickstart the work. We should join hands and start the documentation process as it is an important exercise. Moreover, it is also a mandate as per the biodiversity Act and NGT's order," said Nandini. The panel had also proposed an estimated budget for documentation of biodiversity; but it was not put forward in the recent BBMP budget session.

BMC members upset

Members say if the People's Biodiversity Register is not supposed to be done by BBMP, why were the committee members called for a meeting with the Karnataka Biodiversity Board (KBB) a year back? "We were called for a brief meeting with the KBB commissioner. But, we have not heard from the Palike for a long time now. We are still waiting for the DCF to call the BMC meeting. We accepted to be a part of the committee to carry out work on ground. If the Palike is not interested in taking it forward, having a committee on paper serves no purpose," said Vijay Nishant, another BMC member and founder of Vruksha Foundation.

"I would also not like to be part of a non-functional committee. We are not doing any justice to the work," Heblikar said.

9 EYES OUT FOR THIS SCHOOL

Sampangi Rama Nagar govt school gets CCTV cameras after frequent incidents of drunks trashing up campus

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When students of this government school would walk in for classes in the mornings, alcohol sachets and cigarette butts littered around were the first thing they saw. Tired of miscreants' making a party of it at the school campus, now the school has installed CCTV cameras to keep any eye on the culprits.

The government school at Sampangi Rama Nagar has got nine CCTV cameras surveilling its premises. The decision arose from the constant misuse of school premises by miscreants in the area. School authorities said that a few groups were using the school campus to smoke and drink at night.

"Local goons were misusing the school premises and the nearby areas. The Kalyani adjacent to the school had become a haunt for illegal activities. These people would also enter the school premises and organise gambling. They would also break the school doors and windows and robberies used to take place. The school management was distressed by this issue," said Vinod Kartavya, co-founder of Shikshan. The safety of students had also turned into a key reason for parents refraining from sending their children to school.

The group decided to pool money and donate CCTV cameras and get them installed on the premises at the cost of Rs 40,000.

"There were also a few cases of eve-teasing. The CCTVs will also ensure that students stay at the best of their behaviour," he added.

According to sources, a police constable has been appointed in the area to conduct rounds and will keep the goons at bay.

In addition, the NGO will also facilitate computer training at government schools.

Speaking about the problem faced by the school, headmistress Shamatha said," This is a problem faced by many government schools. There were a lot of cases of illegal activities taking place inside school premises. People used to leave alcohol bottles and other such refuse inside the school compound.

It was a jaunt for drunks and smokers. It had become a routine for us to pick up all the trash the next morning. During covid-19, there was also a case of stone-pelting. We wanted to make our school implement a model solution for the problem. The installation is also aimed at addressing the safety concerns aired by parents."

ACP Ulsoor Gate Narayanaswamy gave his support to the initiative. "To make the government school on par with the private schools and to address the issue of safety, the group has installed CCTVs to keep the premises under regular observation. It is also an attempt to improve facilities and encourage more students to enrol in government schools and ward off illegal activities. If there is any untoward incident, we will provide special protection. In case the school complaints about illegal activities, police will immediately take appropriate action," Narayanaswamy said.

BJP picks Jaggesh for RS seat

In a surprise pick, BJP has decided to field veteran Kannada actor Jaggesh for Rajya Sabha. The list was announced on Sunday where Jaggesh's name was announced along with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Jaggesh had earlier won as an MLA from Turuvekere constituency from the Congress but later defected to the saffron party and he was made an MLC. He also served as a vice-chairman of KSRTC. During the previous Assembly elections, Jaggesh was made a surprise choice to contest from Yeshwanthpur constituency where he was defeated by the then Congress candidate ST Somashekar (who later defected to BJP and was made minister).

Sitharaman is eyeing her second term from Karnataka after finishing six years' tenure. BJP sources said the party is still exploring the possibility to field one more candidate with the help of JD(S) and may field K C Ramamurthy as an independent candidate though the JD(S) has announced the name of Kupendra Reddy despite lacking numbers. —BMB & Agencies

Uptick in covid cases

The covid tally of the city has started to rise if one goes by the latest health bulletin. As per Sunday's bulletin, Bengaluru reported 232 fresh cases, a first in recent weeks. Only nine cases (two in Belagavi, four in Dakshina Kannada and Tumakuru) were reported from non-Bengaluru Urban districts. No death was reported though the total positivity rate has risen to 1.2% in the State. —BMB

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Debris dumping agencies, BBMP is coming for you

Palike to penalise contractors who dump debris left over after infra work on side of roads; citizens want civic body to keep eye on its own personnel too

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It is not just vacant spots that have turned into mini dumping yards in the city, but footpaths and roadsides too are meeting the same fate. What makes it worse is that many times, it is the government agencies themselves who are behind this dumping activity. That won't happen anymore, if the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is to have its way. The Palike has decided to file cases against errant agencies.

During a recent meeting, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath said, "It has come to our notice that BWSSB, BESCOM, GAIL and others have dumped debris on public places, road sides or footpaths. This is causing inconvenience to the public. So, I have directed officials to identify such places and slap fines on contractors who are responsible for this."

Residents have welcomed this though they want the same to be applied to BBMP contractors as well. "Currently, the BBMP is busy desilting the storm water drains. The debris collected is dumped on the road where it stays for weeks. It is not just ugly to look at but also consumes a small portion of the road. As many of the roads in the City are narrow, the debris on the road is definitely a hindrance for the smooth flow of traffic. I request the BBMP to immediately clear the debris or penaslie the contractors," said Sanjeev Kumar, a techie.

Rakesh R, a businessman, agreed. "Recently, they had cleared the mud on the road for asphalting. The mud was dumped on the footpaths for weeks. Then, it started raining and the mud slipped on to the road making it slippery. It was tough to walk and ride on these slippery roads. The debris was cleared only after multiple requests," he said.

Banashankari residents get debris on roads outside their homes after recent rains cleared out (File)

State of potholes

With monsoon fast approaching, BBMP has an uphill task of filling potholes before it starts to pour. More than 11,000 potholes have been identified using Fix my street app. However only half of them have been filled so far. Now, it is a big challenge for the civic agency to fill all the potholes given the short time it has before the city starts receiving heavy rainfall. However, Girinath was hopeful as he asked officials to begin filling the potholes on war footing by taking up the work both in day and night. He has asked the zonal chief engineers to coordinate with batch mix points. The zonal commissioners have been instructed to ensure quality of work.

Flood-prone areas

Meanwhile, 72 areas in the city have been identified as flood-prone. Of these, 27 have been classified as severely vulnerable to flooding and 45 as vulnerable points. Girinath directed Storm Water Drain Chief Engineer M Lokesh that it is high time the precautionary measures are taken up. "Desilting work needs to be taken up. Sand bags should be kept as stand by remedy. Pipes should be laid so that the rain water is flowing smoothly," he said.

> **"Currently, the BBMP is busy desilting the storm water drains. The debris collected is dumped on the road where it stays for weeks**
>
> – Sanjeev Kumar, IT professional

₹10 cr to spread the word on waste management

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The BBMP has allotted Rs 10 crore to create information drives and training vendors to manage solid waste. To create awareness around solid waste management especially as per Solid Waste Management Rules 2016, the BBMP has planned 14 sets of activities. Under the plan, Hudson Circle will be in the spotlight, with artistic banners on the issue to be displayed here round the year. Around 25% of BBMP auto tippers will have advertisements on the plastic ban and waste segregation. Around 500 bus shelters will have these advertisements. Around 50 street plays will be conducted in BBMP limits on 14 topics. A minimum of 1,000 buses will display awareness about the issues. BBMP will also showcase awareness videos in movie halls.

"Under the Shubra Bengaluru programme, Rs 10 crore are earmarked. We requested exemption to conduct activities without raising tender. Every year we conduct these IEC activities and Bengaluru is perhaps the only city to spend so less. Some cities are scoring high in Swachh Survekshan due to spending big on awareness drives on SWM. The NGT has also come down heavily on us to strengthen our awareness drives," said BBMP Special Commissioner (SWM) Harish Kumar.

SWM JC, Parshuram Shinnalkar said the plan is to provide training to vendors about waste segregtion and plastic ban laws. "We are making a list from each zone and going to train vendors. We will also be creating awareness about waste segregation and training bulk-waste generators. As per our survey, we have 2,700 bulk waste generators in the city. We also have waste processing plants and we will advertise to farmers to purchase compost from us," he said. Waste management activists have applauded the effort. Co-founder of Hasiru Dala Nalini Shekar said, "This is an issue that needs constant reminder for segregation at source. However, officials should focus on behavioural change rather than awareness. BBMP should also try to scale up various citizen initiatives in the city."

Activists say waste segregation at source is an issue that needs to be reminded to citizens often

Odette Katrak, co-founder of Beautiful Bharat said Bengaluru's waste segregation is more advanced than most cities. "We have the third category called reject waste that goes to landfills.

With only dry and waste segregation, sanitary waste gets mixed in either based on their understanding. There is also a need to do away with plastic bin liners that are adding to plastic use," Katrak said.

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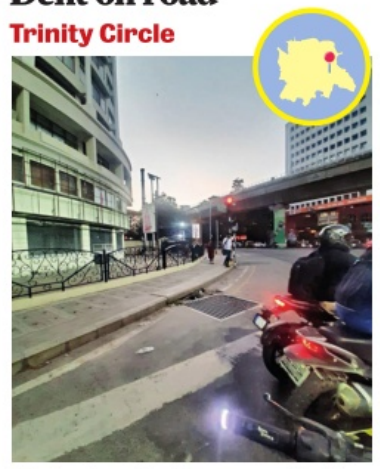
Crowded out

Tannery Road

The footpath at Tannery Road towards Pottery Road is always fully occupied by vendors. Some also have set up shop there and their wares are spilling over almost to the road, so there is no question of leaving space for pedestrians.

Dent on road

Trinity Circle



Trinity Junction is supposed to be in the heart of the city and a part of the tar is chipped off leaving a pothole on a road that usually sees a lot of traffic, especially at peak hours as many offices are based out of here.

Utter silt

Cambridge Layout

Silt has been removed from several parts of Cambridge Layout, but it has not been cleared out of area. Rather it is dumped right on the sides of the road, so one wonders what would happen in case of sudden spell of rain. It is all bound to flow back on to the roads.

Monsoon watch: Arriving this week?

Weatherman says city will see rain as it reaches coasts earlier than usual

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Monsoon is likely to advance into Karnataka this week as it has arrived Kerala, three days ahead of when it normally arrives.

With the Southwest Monsoon advancing into remaining parts of south Arabian Sea, Lakshadweep area, most parts of Kerala, some parts of south Tamil Nadu, some parts of Gulf of Mannar and some more parts of southwest Bay of Bengal on Sunday, Met experts in Bengaluru said the clouds may soon cover the state as well.

Usually monsoon enters Bengaluru around June 5. Now, experts are keeping a close watch on whether it will advance before June 5 as the monsoon cover depends on various factors and there have been several fluctuations in the last few years. For example, the onset of SW monsoon over Kerala in 2013 was on June 1, 2014-June 6; 2015-June 5; 2016-June 8; 2017-May 30; 2018-May 29; 2019-June 8; 2020-June 1; 2021-June 3 and 2022-May 29.

There are a number of factors that help the weathermen to declare the onset of SW monsoon: depth of westerly winds extending up to 4.5 km above mean sea level, strength of the westerly winds have increased over southeast Arabian Sea and is about 15-20 knots (25-35kmph, cloudiness over southeast Arabian Sea and adjoining areas of Kerala have increased and the average outgoing long wave radiation (OLR).

On the first day, there was widespread rainfall activity over Kerala. Now, conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some parts of central Arabian Sea, remaining parts of Kerala, more parts of Tamil Nadu, some parts of Karnataka during next three to four days.

The state is still dependent on monsoon for water needs. The Met department has predicted a near normal monsoon this year.

Pre-monsoon showers

Unlike previous years, pre-monsoon showers in May have created a record this time. As a result, the drinking water crisis which emerges during summers has been mitigated to a great extent. For example, on Sunday, KRS has a storage level of 105.12 feet (full reservoir level-124.8 feet) as against last year's storage of 87.36 feet. However, the inflows have decreased compared to last week. Officials hope that when the monsoon starts pounding the catchment areas, the inflows will also increase drastically. Another important reservoir in Cauvery basin-Harangi has a storage level of 2,849.84 (last year 2,822.51 feet).

B'luru still hot

Bengaluru continued to have moderate hot weather with the City reporting 30.6 degree Celsius (at 5.30 pm on Sunday). Night temperature was 21.2 degree Celsius. For the next two days, the city will have cloudy skies with a possibility of one or two spells of light rainfall. Temperatures highs and lows are likely to be around 31 and 21 degree Celsius.

VK ವಿಜಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ VIJAY KARNATAKA
THE TIMES GROUP
BangaloreMirror

Sri. Araga Jnanendra, Hon'ble Home Minister, GOK and cine artists Dali Dhananjaya and Sanjana Anand honoured the achievers at Bengaluru on 20th May 2022 and unveiled the special edition of 'ACHIEVERS OF BENGALURU'.

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Cannot walk in this park

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Banashankari, filed another PIL in the court as the BBMP's work order was in violation of Section 30 of the BDA Act, 1976, and the Sections 6, 7 & 8 of Karnataka Parks & Play-fields and Open Spaces (Preservation and Regulation) Act, 1985.

The work order was cancelled on February 15, 2011.

The High Court on March 9, 2015 disposed of the petition taking the cancellation of the work order into consideration.

Thereafter, the residents have been waiting for the BBMP to develop the park. With the BBMP failing to stop the construction of the amphitheatre, it is said Anil Kumar GR filed a PIL in 2019 in the High Court for deviation of the court order.

The residents complained the authorities concerned failed to remove the construction material or sheds constructed for the labourers on the land meant for the park.

Garbage dumped at the place dug up for a swimming pool

The land dug up for the swimming pool has been converted to a dumpsite with all types of waste accumulating over time, causing a lot of inconvenience to the people residing in the vicinity of the land.

One can see some tractors parked, sheds constructed for labourers and pushcarts dumped on the vacant land.

"We have been struggling for many years to have a park for the benefit of senior citizens and children. Instead of developing the land allotted for a park, the authorities and elected representatives want to construct a swimming pool and an amphitheatre. Many attempts were made to grab this land but we did not allow it," said M Narayan Rao.

Around 900 people, including 200 senior citizens and 100 children, reside around the land meant for the park. Residents said that it would be a great help for them if the authorities develop the land meant for the park without any delay.

"I have sent letters to BBMP chief commissioner, BDA commissioner and other officials appealing to them to start developing the land into a park but have not received a reply from any of them. It seems the authorities want us to stage a protest or approach the court for everything," said Vasudev Murthy, president of the BSK Valley Residents Welfare Association.

Make like eucalyptus trees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

restrictions and tree acts, trees are being cut. With a little bit of diversion and additional acquisition, these trees could have been saved."

According to Reddy, it takes almost 25 years for us to be able to reap the ecological benefits of a tree. "Meanwhile, officials must take into consideration the pollutants emitted by motor vehicles. Engineers chairing these projects are not aware of the ecological impacts. There are thousands of ways of undertaking the PRR project without going through JB Kaval Reserve Forest. Bengaluru is heading for ecocide; the city will suffer the most," he said.

He also noted that these projects are being implemented without the consultation of experts.

Green belt in 3 hours

"In 1978, then Chief Minister D Devaraj Urs notified the green belt in the city; Bengaluru was the first city in the country to do so. The move was to protect water supply catchments, waterbodies and trees. Within three hours, the then CM notified the green belt. Current developments are undoing all the good work by de-notifying these belts. Similarly, a 100 sq km area of Bannerghatta National Park was de-notified too," added Dr Reddy.

Environmentalists questioned how we would reach zero-carbon emission by 2070 without standing trees.

"Eucalyptus trees should not be considered non-essential and allowed to be felled. They are an essential part of the ecosystem. They also are beneficial for birds for perching and shade. Rare birds that depend on certain trees will be affected. Forest officials should take action in this regard," said tree expert Vijay Nishanth.

"Officials need to develop a more ecologically- beneficial development model and should inform the public about the environmental impacts of projects for transparency and consultation," Nishanth added.

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personal

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I Susmita Sinha, W/o Rajib Kumar Roy, R/O: 33c, GR sunvilla, bommnahalli, Bangalore, Changed my name as Susmita Rajib Kumar Roy.

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HC issues guidelines for quick disposal of criminal cases against politicians

The Karnataka High Court in an interim order has issued several guidelines for the speedy disposal of criminal cases against politicians and influential persons, including a deadline of 90 days for serious offences.

Among the 17 guidelines issued by the court, the directions include the implementation of the Witness Protection Scheme to safeguard the lives and interests of complainants.

Justice S Sunil Dutt Yadav fixed a deadline of 60 days for probing petty offences and 90 days for serious and heinous offences. However, the deadlines can be extended by the magistrates and judges if the investigating agency seeks extension with valid reasons.

The interim order issued on May 17 came on a petition by Sujit Mulgund, who alleged corruption charges against Abhay Kumar Patil, a two-time MLA from Belgaum South constituency. The complaint sought investigation into disproportionate assets of Patil.

The complainant alleged that he is subject to constant threats to his life and relentless harassment since the time he filed the complaint. Patil and his henchmen are allegedly harassing Mulgund and forcing him to withdraw the complaint.

Mulgund had filed a private complaint of corruption charges against the politician.

Citing inordinate delay in the case, the court noted that the complaint was originally filed in 2012 but till date, no charge sheet has been filed by the investigating police. The case is now being investigated by the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB), Belagavi.

Among the other guidelines in the order, the HC has directed that investigating police should inform the magistrate of any interference in investigation by the accused and bottlenecks faced in the probe.

Establishment of specialised investigating wings and personnel with necessary training is another direction. The state should appoint capable public prosecutors in special courts who are capable of handling such cases.

A list of vulnerable witnesses deposition complexes available in Karnataka should be placed on record, it said.

The state should approve the establishment of a second special court at the earliest, the order said. **PTI**

Compensation owed to home-buyers: ₹250 cr

Home buyers wait as revenue officials drag feet in recovering money

Hundreds of home buyers have to wait for years to get compensation awarded to them by RERA

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As per Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) Act, the orders passed by the RERA or Adjudicating Officer need to be executed by the Revenue Department and compensation; delay interest or deposit money needs to be recovered as arrears of land revenue to compensate for the loss incurred by homebuyers. However, inefficient functioning of revenue officials has become a cause of concern for hundreds of homebuyers, who are compelled to wait for years to get the compensation.

For example, RERA has sent 631 cases to the revenue department to recover the penalty of Rs 258 crore from 125 builders but the revenue department could recover only Rs 8 crore so far and it is yet to recover Rs 250 crore from 614 cases. The home buyers, who used to make visits to the builders offices, now have to make visits to tahsildar offices to know about the recovery progress of the complaints referred by the RERA.

"The RERA passed an order for Rs 5 lakh compensation in September 2021. I came to know the order copy has reached Bengaluru North Taluk Office two months ago. I am in touch with the revenue officer who is doing nothing except giving assurances," said Manvanthara B, who bought a flat at a prominent builder's property in 2017.

> **"The RERA passed an order for Rs 5 lakh compensation in Sept 2021. I came to know the order copy has reached Bengaluru North Taluk Office two months ago**
>
> –Manvanthara B, a home-buyer

He said the developer was supposed to hand over the flat to him in 2018 but failed to do so even in 2022. "Around 60 percent of the construction is pending," he said.

The Karnataka Home Buyers Forum has complained to the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner and submitted a letter to ensure speedy recovery but it is alleged that no action was taken.

Samarth Hegde, a home buyer, who paid Rs 18 lakh as down payment and Rs 52 lakh bank loan to the builder is also waiting for the revenue department to recover Rs 1.10 crore from the builder. "I booked a flat in a upcoming complex on Kanakapura Road in 2017. The builder was supposed to handover the flat to me in 2018 but till now the construction is in progress. I approached the RERA seeking cancellation of booking and refund of my money. The RERA has fixed Rs 1.10 crore as compensation to me two years ago and sent it to the Deputy Commissioner's Office which sent the same to the tahasildar. Till now, I have not received the compensation," said Hegde.

According to Dhananjaya Padmanabhachar of Karnataka Home Buyers Forum, the Deputy Commissioner and tahsildars have not taken measures to recover the amount specified by the RERA. "They are just passing the responsibility from one table to another. I request Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to take appropriate actions to speed up the process in the Revenue Department to execute RERA orders," said Padmanabhachar.

Meanwhile, the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner wrote a letter recently to Tahsildars of Bengaluru East, North, South, Anekal and Yelahanka expressing a concern over the slow recovery of RERA revenue recovery certificates. "You are directed to complete the process of closing revenue recovery certificates without any further delay," the Deputy Commissioner said in the letter.

Govt withdraws advisory on sharing of Aadhaar photocopy

The central government on Sunday withdrew its May 27 advisory in which it had asked citizens to share only masked versions of their Aadhaar cards with organisations in order to prevent its misuse.

The Centre said that the Bengaluru Regional Office of UIDAI had issued the earlier advisory in the context of an attempt to misuse a photoshopped Aadhaar card. The release had advised the people not to share photocopies of their Aadhaar with any organization because they can be misused. Alternatively, a masked Aadhaar which displays only the last 4 digits of Aadhaar number, can be used, it said.

The Centre has now withdrawn the advisory in view of the possibility of the misinterpretation of the press release, the same stands withdrawn with immediate effect. Aadhaar card holders have been advised to exercise normal prudence in using and sharing their UIDAI Aadhaar numbers.

The now-withdrawn advisory went viral on social media platforms on Sunday, with several users claiming that most organisations would not conduct verification services without a physical copy of the Aadhaar card.

Some users also shared screenshots of a 2018 conversation between a Twitter user and then outgoing Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) chairperson R S Sharma.

Sharma had then, to showcase the safety and privacy features of Aadhar, put out his Aadhaar number on Twitter and said that he would see if any harm befell him.

File photo of a fake Aadhaar card racket crackdown

The now-withdrawn advisory went viral on social media platforms on Sunday, with several users claiming that most organisations would not conduct verification services without a copy of the Aadhaar card

In the latest advisory, the MeitY said UIDAI-issued Aadhaar card holders are only advised to exercise normal prudence in using and sharing their UIDAI Aadhaar numbers.

In its previous release, the government had warned people not to use public computers at internet cafes to download their Aadhaar cards. "If you do so, please ensure that you delete all the downloaded copies of e-Aadhaar permanently from that computer," the government advisory had said. **–ET Online**

Acid attack victim's condition worsens, again shifted to ICU

The 23-year-old acid attack victim was again shifted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) after her condition deteriorated post-surgery, police sources said on Sunday.

The victim had developed complications after going through fifth surgery. She had suffered 36 per cent burn injuries when a man attacked her on April 28 and has been in the hospital ever since.

The woman was in a semiconscious state and was responding to the treatment. Since, she suffered a drop in her oxygen level, she was again shifted to the ICU ward.

> **Victim had developed complications after going through fifth surgery after being attacked on April 28**

The doctors said, "The woman's burn injuries were on her neck, face and one part of the temple. The skin transplantation has begun and she has to stay for at least one more month in the hospital. The woman has started food intake."

On April 28 the attacker, Nagesh, who was waiting in an auto near the workplace of the woman in Sunkadakatte in Bengaluru, had chased her on the road and then poured acid on her.

The police said that the accused studied in the same school with the victim in SSLC (Class 10). However, the girl had spurned his advances.

–IANS

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DOCTORS OF SPACECRAFT

Docs help ISRO develop human-rated spacecraft for Gaganyaan

#New Delhi

The Indian Space Research Organisation is taking help of doctors in building its human-rated spacecraft for the Gaganyaan mission, India's first human spaceflight that aims to take astronauts into a low earth orbit.

The ISRO has roped in doctors to understand the impact of the spaceflight on humans and will design the spacecraft accordingly.

The astronauts selected for the mission have also been involved in making of the orbital module.

"There are four astronauts who are part of Gaganyaan. We talk to them. They sit in a cockpit. We ask them to go through this and tell us whether the placing of equipment is correct, whether the lighting is correct or whether the edges are causing discomfort," ISRO Chairman S Somnath said during a brainstorming session with health experts on the use of space technology in emergency medical services.

Somanth said scientists at the ISRO were developing the human-rated spacecraft.

"We also look at various measures of quality to increase the reliability and finally to prove the redundancy," Somnath said, adding that space agencies the world over, including ISRO, have imbibed developing fail-safe systems as a culture.

"We are also looking at how doctors can connect with the human spacecraft design. There is an interaction happening with doctors and engineers on the designing of the human spacecraft. If you have to conduct a successful human space flight and sustain it in India, we need a strong pool of doctors who will get involved in this human spaceflight mission as well," he said.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh has said that the first unmanned mission in the Gaganyaan series was expected to be launched next year. This would be followed by another unmanned mission, before Indian astronauts board the spacecraft for a sojourn in a low earth orbit.

According to a senior ISRO official, a human-rated spacecraft should be able to accommodate the crew as if they are living in normal acceptable conditions and they should be able to perform various activities during their stay.

> **"There is an interaction happening with doctors and engineers on the designing of the human spacecraft**
> — ISRO Chairman S Somnath

The engineers have to design the spacecraft by identifying potential hazards and developing systems to control such happenings.

The spacecraft also should have the facility to safely recover the crew from any hazardous situation. **PTI**

One-fourth of global internet users vulnerable to attacks

About a quarter of the world's Internet users live in countries that are more susceptible than previously thought to targeted attacks on their Internet infrastructure, find researchers.

The structure of the Internet can differ dramatically in different parts of the world.

According to computer scientists at the University of California San Diego, who surveyed 75 countries, 34 nations have transit ecosystems that render them particularly exposed, where a single autonomous system is privy to traffic destined to over 40 per cent of their IP addresses.

In many developed countries, like the US, a large number of Internet providers compete to provide services for a large number of users. These networks are directly connected to one another and exchange content, a process known as direct peering. All the providers can also plug directly into the world's Internet infrastructure.

"But a large portion of the Internet doesn't function with peering agreements for network connectivity," said Alexander Gamero-Garrido, from UC San Diego.

In other nations, many of them still developing countries, most users rely on a handful of providers for Internet access, and one of these providers serves an overwhelming majority of users. Not only that, but those providers rely on a limited number of companies called transit autonomous systems to get access to the global Internet and traffic from other countries. Researchers found that often these transit autonomous system providers are state owned.

> **In several developing countries, most users rely on a handful of providers for Internet, and one of these serves a majority of users**

This, of course, makes countries with this type of Internet infrastructure particularly vulnerable to attacks because all that is needed is to cripple a small number of transit autonomous systems. These countries, of course, are also vulnerable if a main Internet provider experiences outages.

In the worst case scenario, one transit autonomous system serves all users. Cuba and Sierra Leone are close to this state of affairs. By contrast, Bangladesh went from only two to over 30 system providers, after the government opened that sector of the economy to private enterprise.

This underlines, the researchers noted, the importance of government regulation when it comes to the number of Internet providers and transit autonomous systems available in a country.

The team presented their findings at the Passive and Active Measurement Conference 2022 online. **IANS**

BITS & BYTES

5G AUCTION SOON

India has started the groundwork for 5G spectrum auctions slated to take place this year, as announced by the Secretary of the Telecommunications Department and Chairman of the Digital Communications Commission, K Rajaraman late last year.

The country being the world's second-largest telecommunications market is planning to roll out 5G mobile services within 2022-23 by telecom providers.

It is expected that 5G will contribute USD 450 billion to the Indian economy, increasing the pace of development and creating jobs. It will help in digitising the economy, boosting the Startup ecosystem, improving governance, ease of living and ease of doing business in the country. **ANI**

POST BY DRONE

The Department of Posts has for the first time delivered mail using a drone as part of a pilot project in Gujarat's Kutch district, covering a distance of 46 km in 25 minutes, officials said on Sunday.

The mail was sent by the drone from Habay village in Bhuj taluka to Ner village in Bhachau taluka of Kutch district by the postal department under the guidance of the Union Ministry of Communications, a release issued by the Press Information Bureau (PIB) in Ahmedabad said.

"With the success of this pilot project, it will now be possible to make postal deliveries by drone in future," it said. **PTI**

DOGECOIN FOR SPACEX

Tech billionaire Elon Musk said that his aerospace company SpaceX will soon accept Dogecoin as a payment option for merchandise, joining Tesla.

The electric vehicle company started accepting the cryptocurrency in January, reports Teslarati.

Musk, a frequently vocal supporter of some cryptocurrencies, announced on Twitter, first reiterating that Tesla merch could be bought with the crypto.

"Tesla merch can be bought with Doge, soon SpaceX merch too," Musk wrote on the microblogging site.

Musk, nor SpaceX, announced a concrete date of when it would begin accepting Dogecoin for the merchandise. Currently, SpaceX's merchandise shop still only accepts credit card payments. **IANS**

HEALTH TIP: One must finish dinner by 8 pm, which is a realistic time, while the ideal time would be 6 pm

Sports/energy drinks, protein bars have sugar in alarming quantities that can derail your fitness progress

BangaloreMirror 9
Monday, May 30, 2022
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It's row time, folks

Having arguments can actually improve your relationships – here's how to nail them

Let's face it - we're a nation addicted to watching other people arguing.

When it comes to problems in our own lives, some of us take the "stiff upper lip" approach - if we ignore something for long enough, perhaps it'll disappear. Just look at the supposed ongoing feud between Princes Harry and William.

Others, like the Kardashians, seem to revel in confrontation.

Who can forget the infamous "slapgate", when Kim and Kourtney's bickering became so heated it turned physical?

Relationship expert Neil Wilkie, founder of online couples therapy platform The Relationship Paradigm, says that feuds, whether between family, friends or partners are often triggered by a minor incident.

"The origins of the argument tend to fester and grow, leading to people getting into 'defence' mode, which quickly escalates the row," he says.

Here, Neil reveals six ways you can have a healthy argument and tackle disagreements much more effectively.

CHOOSE YOUR TIME WISELY

"Create a time and space where you'll be listened to and understood. The focus must be on the underlying feelings and blame removed so, in other words, take your time and try to explain why you're feeling stressed. Perhaps they are upset because you didn't load the dishwasher, or you keep leaving wet towels on the bed. Address this first, as these issues often fester and can be the cause of a major blowout further down the line."

SCHEDULE A 'STATE OF UNION' MEETING

"Setting aside an hour a week for a 'state of union' meeting could be a huge help. Share three good things you have each noticed in the relationship that week and one thing that could be even better. Agree what you're both going to work on the following week."

TALK ABOUT THE GOOD THINGS

"Every night, share three good things that have happened to you that day. This will get both your subconscious minds into a positive frame before sleeping and allow the subconscious to filter out any unnecessary and unimportant differences."

TAKE A PAUSE

"If you're arguing and feel yourself getting activated, and the adrenaline is flowing, it's handy to have a 'pause' signal that both sides will recognise. Take a break for at least 20 minutes, then return to the discussion. When you've calmed down, you can process what's being said."

EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS

"Give each other 20 minutes to express your feelings on the subject. Listen intently, mindful of the real feelings. At the end of 20 minutes say something like, 'I understand that you feel this way about X because of Y.'"

> **The origins of an argument tend to fester and grow, leading to people getting into defence mode, which escalates the row**

DON'T GO TO SLEEP MID-FIGHT

"Going to sleep on an argument isn't productive unless you both agree the discussion will continue after all parties have had a good night's sleep. If the adrenaline is still flowing and you're feeling angry, you're likely to wake up with an even more entrenched position and things will get worse."

ARGUMENT MYTHS BUSTED

MYTH 1: Get drunk to help you vent your true feelings "It really doesn't help. Many arguments are fuelled by drinking as it loosens inhibitions, but alcohol also disconnects you from logic and emotional intelligence. Many arguments are regretted when sober."

MYTH 2: it will all be forgotten the next day "No! The brain has an infinite capacity to remember. The subconscious will be processing past arguments and trying to create patterns from them. Arguments need to be calmly discussed in order to understand each other's feelings and see if a resolution is possible."

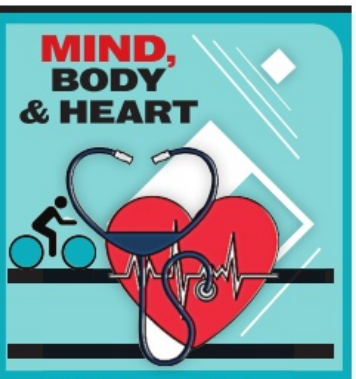
MYTH 3: People who really love each other never argue "This isn't the case. If arguments are suppressed, a relationship will wither.
If you truly love someone you can be honest with each other and celebrate the differences." rather than suppress them."

MYTH 4: The person who shouts the loudest will win the argument "If you have to shout louder to try and win the argument, you need to find a better argument!"

MYTH 5: Arguments are a competition to judge who's the cleverest "You are in a relationship, not a debating society. There is no right and there are no prizes!"

MYTH 6: Everything can always be resolved "Seek to understand, not to persuade.
This is the key to having healthy discussions and a healthy relationship."

-Daily Mirror



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

My wife and I went through a tough time financially a few years ago and it put a lot of strain on our marriage. She left her job to work freelance after having our daughter, so I became the main breadwinner only to be made redundant and then struggle to find another job.
Somehow, we got through it and I'm now doing well, earning a pretty good wage and paying off my debts.
The thing is, my wife seems to resent me for it instead of being happy for me and relieved that we're in a better situation.
I don't know where this is all coming from to be honest. She's constantly planning how to spend my wages and says things like: "Well, I deserve this after everything you put me through." It's confusing.

COLEEN SAYS

Well, it sounds like she's holding on to a lot of resentment after leaving her job and then suffering financially when you lost yours.
She's blaming you for what happened, although not in so many words, even though being made redundant wasn't your fault.
Financial stress puts huge pressure on relationships and money is also really hard to talk about, which is probably why she's making these comments instead of actually having an open and honest conversation.
However, I think you have to tell her how she's making you feel in order for you both to move on positively. There might also be some envy on her part.
Maybe she wishes she hadn't given up her job and resents you for having the opportunity to do well in your career.
But if that's true, she needs to admit it and do something about it.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

MIRRORLIGHTS

Scientists identify new liver and kidney disease

Scientists have identified a new disease in a ground-breaking discovery that could help patients with unexplained liver and kidney problems.

Researchers at Newcastle University in the UK have established the inherited condition, called TULP3-related ciliopathy that causes kidney and liver failure in children and adults.

There are numerous reasons for kidney and liver organ failure, which if left untreated is life-threatening, but often patients do not get a precise diagnosis which can make their best course of treatment unclear.

Research, published in the American Journal of Human Genetics, has revealed that a faulty gene is the catalyst for increased fibrosis in the liver and kidney, often resulting in the need for a transplant.

"Our finding has a huge implication for better diagnosis and management of kidney and liver disease in some patients," said Professor John Sayer, Deputy Dean of Clinical Medicine at Newcastle.

"What we are now able to do is give some patients a precise diagnosis, which allows their treatment to be tailored to their needs for the best possible outcome," Sayer added. **—IANS**

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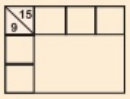
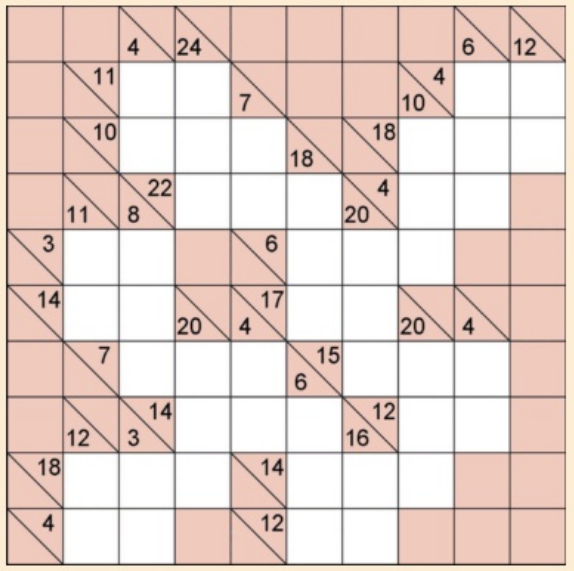
Kakuro

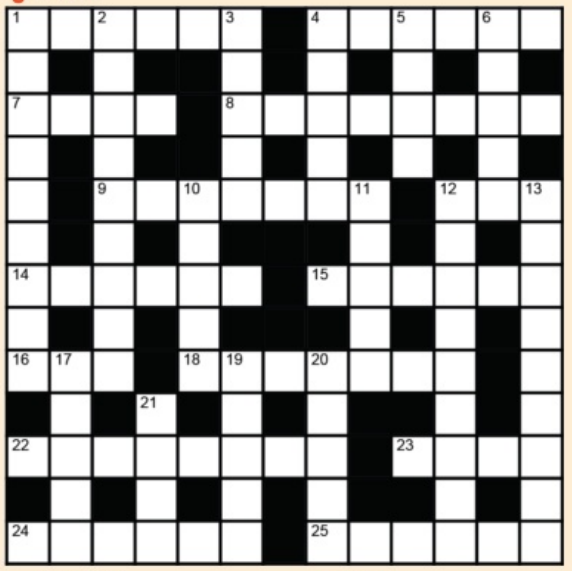


The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 An unpredictable phenomenon (4,2)
4 Husband or wife (6)
7 Mass of stone (4)
8 Eliminate (5,3)
9 Fees (7)
12 In the past (3)
14 Imaginary place (6)
15 Trouble; nuisance (6)
16 Kind of wood (3)
18 Makes journeys (7)
22 Field Marshal K.M. ___ : first Indian C-in-C of Indian Army? (8)
23 Ring of light (4)
24 Small boats (6)
25 An officer of the church (6)

DOWN

1 Large hairy spider (9)
2 Coarse fabric? (9)
3 Card game (5)
4 Shopping place (5)
5 Sturdy trees (4)
6 Bit, burnt or smarted? (5)
10 Slanted (5)
11 Urbane or chic (5)
12 A in ACP the police rank? (9)
13 Covered by weeds or jungle (9)
17 Decrepit dwelling (5)
19 ___ in : persuades to take part? (5)
20 Ampoules (5)
21 Petty quarrel (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: X EQUALS D

VDPWLYPC EBP XWP'C UPWM MGYC DWWX CGBR GWZX VP CGBVL GYPXT QPCVZ CGBR'HB JZQPD VC YMYR.

Linemaro

I don't know what's prettier today: the water, the sky or your eyes

Mindchow

To be wronged is nothing unless you continue to remember it

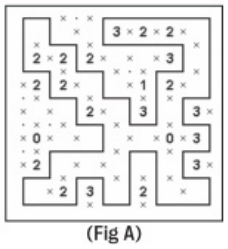
Joke of the day

One goldfish to his tankmate: "If there's no God, who changes the water?"

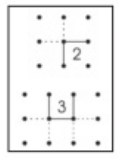
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



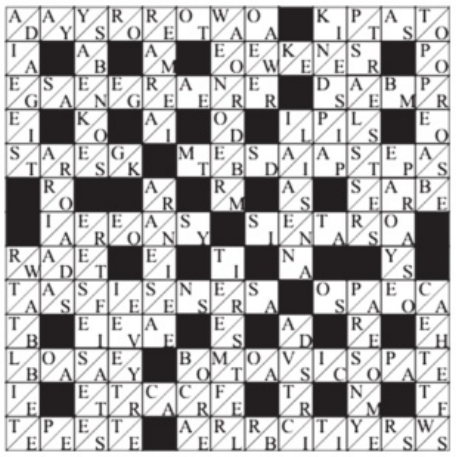
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

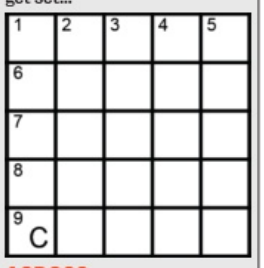
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 A prop; 6 Terne;
7 Runts; 8 In die;
9 On Cut

DOWN

1 Tacit; 2 Nor up;
3 Prude; 4 Inner;
5 Notes

Mensapuzzle

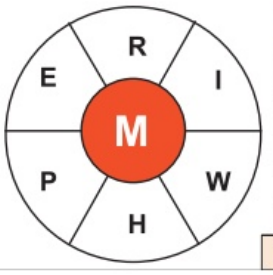
What numbers belong to A and B?

36 (35) 60

65 (58) 104

A (79) B

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; 06 Good; 08 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

2								7
	4	7	8		5	1	6	
	9						3	
9			3		8			5
	7	8				3	1	
1			2		7			8
	1						8	
	8	2	9		4	5	7	
7								3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 14
3 4 7 8

Medium = 21
1 2 5 6

Hard = 3
2 4 7 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Ear is smaller. 2. Ball is moved. 3. Hat is different. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Collar is different.

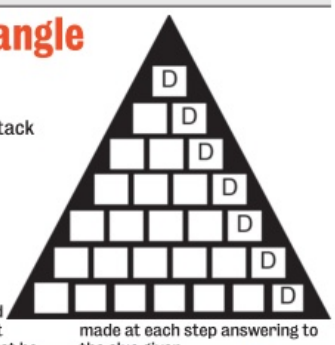
Riddler

Each sentence below contains a word that can be anagrammed to answer or describe the sentence. Example: Craft that might tip in the ocean. Answer: Canoe (Anagram of ocean)

1. You cover a mattress with one of these
2. Dangerous thing for an alcoholic to begin
3. Feature on which a tire might be rated

Alpha triangle

1 Vitamin type
2 Identity, abbr.
3 Remove
4 Rapid surprise attack
5 Televised
6 Brought up
7 Stewed



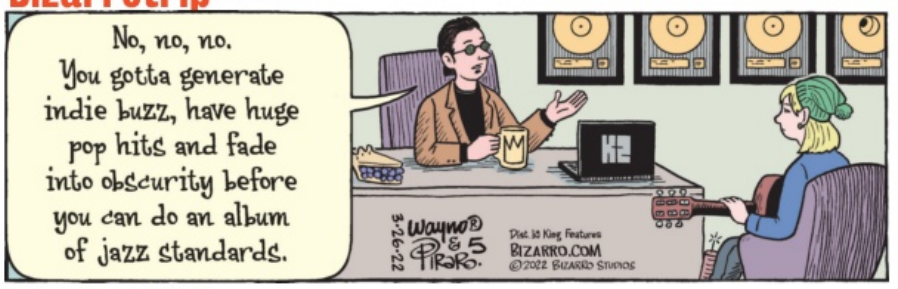
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip


No, no, no. You gotta generate indie buzz, have huge pop hits and fade into obscurity before you can do an album of jazz standards.
3-26-22
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM
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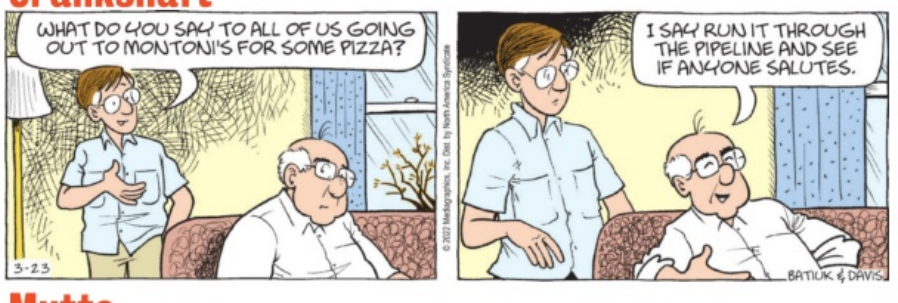
Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

YOU'RE DOING PRETTY GOOD WITH THE DANCE. I'M SURPRISED.
YOU KNOW, YOU CAN GIVE ME A COMPLIMENT WITHOUT BEING MEAN.
YOU FIRST!
NO, YOU!
FINE, YOU'RE DOING GREAT!

Crankshaft


WHAT DO YOU SAY TO ALL OF US GOING OUT TO MONTONI'S FOR SOME PIZZA?
I SAY RUN IT THROUGH THE PIPELINE AND SEE IF ANYONE SALUTES.
3-23
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, your willpower may help you start some new innovations on the work front. You are likely to get a big order in your business, which will help expand the business in the near future. New responsibilities in your job may make you busy. Jobseekers might get good jobs. Understanding with your spouse may be improved, which can help maintain harmony in family life.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You may spend your hard-earned money buying worthless items. You are advised to control your short temper. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on frivolous issues; else they may have to go through a break-up.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may meet some influential person, who may help you in the progress of your work. Your network will be stronger with the help of that person. You may prepare yourself to implement new ideas at your work or business. You will plan to invest more capital into your business, which may give you financial gains in the near future. In terms of domestic life, you will be busy with family get-togethers and social events.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, your parents' health may be good. You may enjoy work and may get rewards after your hard work. Your social status may be enhanced now. Overworking your mind may make you tired. Due to the workload, you may not be able to make it to some family event.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be satisfied at work. You may plan for a short work-related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your gurus may show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may feel dull. It is advised that you keep your mind cool. Follow the golden rule to think twice before any action. You may have to travel somewhere to recover your money; otherwise you may lose the money. You are also advised to avoid going for any adventurous trips. Students are advised to do in-depth study to get success.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may feel good. Domestic harmony may make you happy. You may meet some influential person to get benefits at the work front. You are likely to perform well at your job and may expect some rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes in inherited property are likely to settle down.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may feel healthy and may be able to focus on your goals. Your performance at work may be very good so your boss may be happy with you and you may get some important responsibilities at work. You may hear good news in any legal matter. You are likely to gain control over your opponents and business rivals.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may feel negativity around you. You may find your responsibilities as a burden. You may be in a hurry to complete the task given to you. You may make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may slow down, which may affect your day-to-day work. Your projects are likely to be delayed, and it affects your professional life. You may have to take advice from your elders or consultants, before taking any important decision.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may spend time to gain knowledge and you may understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes you may have to control your short temper, which may help you perform your task smoothly. There may be some chances to make extra income, which may give you comfort in your workflow. You are advised to be careful before making new investments in assets. You are likely to spend money for love. Love birds may enjoy happy moments.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be enthusiastic; you may be more focused, which may speed up projects that were postponed. Your subordinates may help you start a new project, which may give you profits in the near future. You may expect some short trips related to your family issues. Job seekers may hear good news in terms of jobs.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today and may use your creativity at the office or at home, which may enhance your social status. Love birds are likely to get some support from their family members for marriage. Students may hear good news in terms of academics.

KIDZONE

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N NITHIN, 15 YEARS, BGS PUBLIC SCHOOL

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
6+(1/2)(12*11/3) = 6+(1/2)(44) = 6+22 = 28

RIDDLER
1. Sheet, 2. Binge, 3. Tread

QUOTE UNCODE
Ignorant men don't know what good they hold in their hands until they've flung it away.

FAST FIVE

C	O	U	N	T
I	N	D	I	E
T	U	R	N	S
T	R	E	N	D
A	P	P	R	O

BULL'S EYE
emir, hemp, mire, perm, prim, prime, whim, WHIMPER

STRIKE OUT

D	A	Y	O	R	T	W	O	I	P	S	O			
I		A		A		O	W	E	N	S		P		
G	A	N	G	R	E	N	E		D	A	M	P		
I	K		A		D		L	I	L		O			
T	A	S	K		M	E	D	I	A	T	E	S		
R		A		A		E	R	E						
I	R	O	N	Y		I	N	T	R	A				
R	A	E		I		T		A		S				
B		I	V	E		A	R		H					
A	S	S	E	S	S		S	P	E	C				
R	A	E		I		T		A		S				
T	E	S	T		A	R	B	I	T	E	R	S		

QUICK

T	O	S	S	U	P		S	P	O	U	S	E		
A		A		O		T		A		T				
R	O	C	K		K	N	O	C	K	O	U	T		
A		K		E		R		S		N				
N		C	H	A	R	G	E	S		A	G	O		
T		L		T		U		S		V				
U	T	O	P	I	A		H	A	S	S	L	E		
L		T		L		V		I		R				
A	S	H		T	R	A	V	E	L	S		G		
H		T	O		I			T		R				
C	A	R	I	A	P	P	A		H	A	L	O		
B	A	S	E		O	T	O	S	C	O	P	E		
S	K	I		F	S		S	E	X	T	O	N		

MENSA PUZZLE
A = 98, B = 126. In the first row the numbers outside the brackets are divided by 12 and the results placed inside the brackets; in the second row they are divided by 13; thus, in the third row the numbers inside the brackets are multiplied by 14 to obtain a and b.

SUDOKU

2	6	1	4	9	3	8	5	7
3	4	7	8	2	5	1	6	9
8	9	5	7	6	1	2	3	4
9	2	6	3	1	8	7	4	5
4	1	3	5	7	2	9	8	6
1	3	4	2	5	7	6	9	8
5	7	8	6	4	9	3	1	2
6	8	2	9	3	4	5	7	1
7	5	9	1	8	6	4	2	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, Id, Rid, Raid, Aired, Raised, Braised.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 3 + 7 − 4 = 14
Medium
6 + 5 × 2 − 1 = 21
Hard
2 − 4 − 2 + 7 = 3

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Moosewala shot dead
Popular Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala shot dead in Punjab, celebrities say 'his courage and words will never be forgotten'

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INTERVIEW TAMANNAAH BHATIA, ACTOR

In high heels and heavy couture

Actor speaks to us about her first tryst with the French Riviera

Tamannaah Bhatia made her debut at the 2022 Cannes Film Festival, participating in the Indian representation at the Marche du Film and making a splash at the red carpet. Her black gown with a high slit at the Top Gun: Maverick premiere was talked-about, too. ETimes caught up with Tamannaah to record her views and reflections on her first tryst with the French Riviera. She reveals that it was an absolute honour and pleasure for her to represent India on a global stage. Excerpts...

You made your Cannes red carpet debut this year. How was the experience?

The experience was surreal! It was incredible to be surrounded by the best and most creative minds of world cinema. My appearance at Cannes happened at the last minute but we still made the most of it. I'm happy with the way we pulled it off.

Red carpet outfits are often over the top. Did you face any inconvenience with your outfit? Are actresses given a support crew to help with their outfits before the walk? Yes, there is always a little bit of pressure because the appearance is going to be viewed internationally. But I had a really good team that was very hands-on and supportive. They were more excited for me than I was for myself, so that really gave me all the encouragement I needed to be able to function at the festival and do my best. There was a lot of walking involved – that too in heels for two days straight. It becomes extra difficult especially in couture and heavy clothes, but the team's support and the enthusiasm of everyone present, representing India made it easy and possible.

India created the buzz and there was a very strong Indian presence at Cannes Film Festival this year, says actor

How was your experience with the way the festival was organised, with the logistics and security? Do you see any difference from how such events are organised in India?

While we do have well-planned events in India, Cannes was planned very efficiently. In India, we have a certain amount of organisation. In general, when we have well-planned events in India, they are of the same order.

India was the Country of Honour at Marche du Film this year. Do you think we made the best of that opportunity while representing India and did we create more international avenues for our films?

There was a lot of responsibility to represent our country at the festival, all the more because we were a partner country this year. India definitely created the buzz and there was a very strong Indian presence at Cannes Film Festival this year.

Any lessons that you have taken away from this debut Cannes experience?

While representation matters, it is important to take your role on an international stage like Cannes Film Festival very seriously. It is of utmost importance to represent your country responsibly.

What Radhika can't cope with

Radhika Apte recently opened up about the challenges she faces as an actor in the industry. According to her she is unable to cope with her colleagues undergoing surgeries to change their face and bodies.

In an interview with a news portal, Radhika stated that she is struggling with people unable to combat age, especially in the industry. According to her, she knows so many of her colleagues who have undergone surgeries to change their face and bodies. The actress added that she just can't cope with it.

Radhika also pointed out that a lot of people who talk about body positivity have themselves gone done so many things. She is a bit tired and finds it very challenging to accept, Radhika told a newspaper.

After being a part of the industry for more than 17 years, Radhika also added that she is sure about one thing and that is she is not willing to compromise. According to her, she is tired of doing things she doesn't agree with or saying great things about someone who she doesn't think is that great. The actress also stated that she is done with small talks and attending unnecessary parties. She said that the spark inspiring her is missing, which is why she is on a break to explore it herself.

She will next be seen in 'Vikram Vedha' which will star Hrithik Roshan and Saif Ali Khan in the lead roles. **-ETimes**

Rakul is 'in a blingtastic mood'

Actor Rakul Preet Singh, on Sunday share some stunning photos of herself, on her social media account.

Taking to her Instagram handle, the 'Runway 34' actor set Instagram ablaze, as she drops some steaming hot pictures of herself where she could be seen wearing a shimmery saree, paired with a matching blouse with a plunging neckline and posing for the camera.

Sharing the snaps, Rakul wrote, "In a Blingtastic mood"

Rakul is quite active on social media, where she has a sizable fan base. Her fans can't get enough of the Bollywood diva, who is frequently seen sharing images and videos of herself and her loved ones on social media.

Rakul was most recently seen in the film 'Runway 34,' which also starred Ajay Devgn and Amitabh Bachchan.
(ANI)" **-IANS**

Working with Cruise? A pinch-me moment for Jon

Actor Jon Hamm says filming 'Top Gun: Maverick' with Hollywood star Tom Cruise was a "pinch-me moment".

Starring as Cyclone in the long-awaited action sequel, the 51-year-old actor says it was a dream come true to be part of a movie with such a "profound history", Hamm said.

During his appearance on 'Smallzy's Surgery', he said: "To be able to work on a film like this that has such a profound history and to be able to work on it and work with Tom and (producer) Jerry Bruckheimer and everyone else that is involved with the making of this movie, was a bucket list dream come true kind of pinch-me moment, for sure." Unlike his co-stars, Hamm was glad he didn't have to do any of the flying stunts. Glen Powell recently revealed he did "a lot of puking" while filming the flick.

The 33-year-old actor, who portrays pilot Jake 'Hangman' Seresin in the film, and his co-stars underwent three months of training ahead of shooting in order to grow accustomed to g-force, but only lead actor Tom Cruise managed to stay unaffected while up in the sky.

He said, "There was a lot of puke during filming. Before shooting, Tom sent us on three months of training to get used to the g-force. (But) even with training, nothing prepares you for the intensity of flying in an F-18. We were all flying once a day and Tom was up there three times every day.

"But it didn't faze him at all. There we are, all being sick into bags, and he is taking everything in his stride." **-IANS**